AFTER DEATH WHAT? THIS PAPER TELLS YOU

SPIRITUALISM'S PICTORIAL JOURNAL

TRUTH

The PSYCHIC Observer

TRUTH FOR AUTHORITY NOT AUTHORITY FOR TRUTH

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DECKER OPENS GOTHIC PSYCHIC CENTER WITH TYPICAL TEST VOICE SEANCE

In New York City's famous Greenwich Village, over thirty persons assembled for a direct voice seance. Included were notables, i.e., Helgi Briem, Icelandic Consul to the U.S.A.; Mme. Leopoldine Konstantin, one of the stars in the recent film success, "Notorious"; Captain Michael Gladych, famous Polish aviator; Samuel Markowitz and Sidney Rosenbaum, noted New York lawyers. Prominent business men, mediums, authors, editors and even a detective attended the seance.

Patsy, Bert Wells and "Jim" Riley at their best. Sitters hold and "control" medium during rare voice demonstration.

By ED BODIN
Psychic Reporter

While thirty-one guests softly hummed *"Three O'clock in the Morning,"* the partially materialized spirit son of motion picture star *Leopoldine Konstantin*, slowly danced with his mother for several minutes, then fondly kissed her on the forehead as he held her hands in parting and spoke in full voice, independent of the medium: *"Mother, I assure you, I am not dead."*

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The reader must bear in mind that, in seances of this kind . . . held in total darkness, the spirit forms are not visible to the ordinary sitter. These forms can be felt and heard but are not seen normally (i.e.) by third dimensional sight . . . although on many occasions, clairvoyants attending seances of this nature, claim these spirit forms are sometimes quite visible to their "EXTENDED VISION."—ED.

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Such was one of the many dramatic moments of the direct-voice, materialization and independent voice manifestations that thirty-one persons witnessed at a seance conducted by *Frank Decker*, internationally known medium, held November 14th at his new building of Psychic Service at 334 West 12th Street, New York City. Decker's new headquarters will be known as *Gotham's Psychic Center*.

No Hollywood Premiere could have been more outstanding than this first seance since Mr. Decker's return to New York City which is to be his permanent residence, a condition urged by his many friends in America as well as some in England who are said to have already scheduled trans-oceanic flights from London to New York.

"Psychic Detective"

Patsy, the merry but vital spirit collaborator of Mr. Decker, and who has modestly accepted the title *"Psychic Detective," was* more than a master of ceremonies: he was *"spokesman colossal"* and almost the equivalent of an entire police force. In his characteristic jovial manner, he claimed he had figuratively roped off all of West 12th Street between Hudson and Washington Streets, allowing only spirit relatives and friends of the guests present, to enter; although thousands of spirits had been attracted by the "powerful light" of a seance of this kind.

o o

So that the term "POWERFUL LIGHT" may not be misunderstood, it might be well to explain that upon questioning the spirits as to how they found their way to the seance room, they have repeatedly said "WE SAW THE LIGHT."

Of course, all spirits are not attracted the same way, some are almost always close to their loved ones and go with them to seances. Others overhear that a seance is to be held and are able to "GET IN." Still others are able to be present at the time because they have been anxious to answer "A CALL" . . . meaning that many experienced sitters are aware of the necessity to send out "a call" to their loved ones — either audibly or mentally. When more people understand the need for such collaboration and cooperation with those on the other side . . . then and only then will they be able to make and enjoy better contacts. ED.

—oo—

PATSY

After the trumpet had whirled around the room with the roar of an airplane in action, *Patsy* was pleased to allow an outstanding American hero *in spirit* to come and manifest before one of the guests, *Captain Michael Gladych* a former Polish flyer of the R.A.F. who was witnessing his first seance.

The spirit stood before *Capt. Gladych* and modestly said: *"I have been attracted to your vibration, Sir; and having been a flyer myself, I want to shake your hand. I crashed in the Pacific early in the war. My name is COLIN KELLY."*

"Psychic Electricity"

And then he went on to explain the details of his passing, naming the Japanese battleship and the exact date of his recorded death. Capt. Gladych seemed thrilled, especially when another spirit manifested, speaking in *Polish*, stating he was just a grateful countryman passing by, attracted by *the light* of the seance radiating in the spirit world.

The seance began at 8:35 P. M. *Bert Wells*, another of Mr. Decker's spirit teachers, gave the invocation shortly after the medium had become entranced. Then *Patsy* took charge — and although he chided several guests for being nervous, he remained aloof, frequently wafting breezes that lowered the temperature in the darkened room.

He was proud too of his new *"psychic electricity"* which manifested as light to all present, and he even improvised a moon on the ceiling. A scientist, *J. F. D. Hoge*, among the guests, admitted that no contraption known to science could produce such a subdued glow without reflection of some kind. Mr. Hoge claimed that it would be utterly impossible to produce such an effect with a flash light.

Patsy well recalled *Samuel Markowitz*, noted New York attorney, who during a seance at the Taft Hotel early in 1945, had been stubbornly skeptical. But this time the lawyer was practically forced to admit overwhelming evidence on the side of *Spiritualism* as *Patsy* escorted the spirit of the lawyer's mother to her son, and she spoke to him. At first *Mr. Markowitz* tried to simulate an attitude of nonchalance and thoughtlessly said: *"Yes, mother — have you something important to say?"*

Capt. Gladych

Instantly the trumpet dropped. Even a loving mother cannot overcome non-cooperation of an indifferent and skeptical son failing to appreciate the importance of a spirit mother making great effort just to be heard, which of itself is of paramount importance to any one who cares.

This riled *Patsy* who spoke to *Markowitz* like an irate Judge admonishing a lawyer in contempt of court. Sam melted completely as *Patsy* continued: *"And your loving mother tells me her name is YETTA — that you have two sons —one named RICHARD who recently suffered a bad case of poison ivy."* As *Markowitz* choked with bewilderment, guests could not help applauding *Patsy*.

Lawyer Called to Task

But *Patsy* enthused, turned suddenly on Sam's friend, *Bernard Rabin* who had come to his first seance just out of curiosity knowing that *"there was nothing to it."*

Patsy must have sensed something, for he asked *Rabin* to stand up and get ready to take it. *"Listen,"* said *Patsy* now laughing with assurance of a young *David* with a sling-shot. *"I know you think Spiritualism is a lot of bunk; but brother I know more about you than you do yourself. Your father is here and he has given me an ear-full."*

Then *Patsy* let him have it, astonishing *Rabin* who could only sheepishly acquiese with a *"yes . . . that's right . . . correct . . . excellent . . . absolutely true . . unbelievable. . ."* as *Patsy* ended with: *"You are in the dyeing and cleaning business You have a son. His name is Michael. Recently he was operated on for appendicitis. And your father says your name was also operated on . . . it was Rabinowitz before you made it Rabin."*

Manifests As a Boy

More applause of the guests made *Pasty* howl with boyish laughter which is always a tonic to those who hear it. And it was the heretofore skeptical *Rabin* who in all seriousness after the seance said: *"God bless you, Mr. Decker. I want to have an interview with you privately."* He congratulated *Patsy* — *"a lad who manifests as a boy not quite old*

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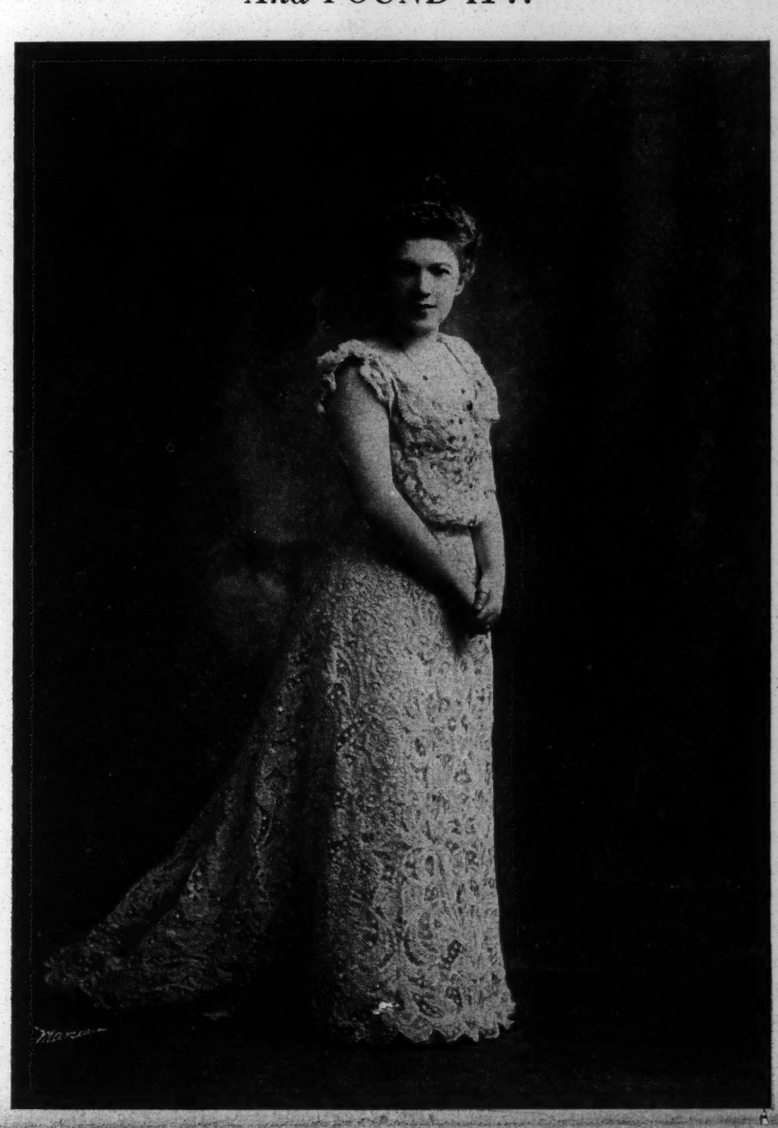
She Sought the Truth of Spirit Return And FOUND IT!!



Psychic Observer

Ella Wheeler Wilcox

Talked With Her "Dead" Husband

Their Love Brought Them Together Again

That feeling of infinite devotion which welled up in their hearts survived the change we call death. Messages from The Other Side of Life proved that it was an immortal feeling, continuing beyond the grave.

By WARREN CHANDLER
The Understanding Friend,
15 Park Row, New York (7), N. Y.

For more than thirty years, *Ella Wheeler Wilcox* and her husband *Robert* had faithfully promised each other that whichever one of them passed on first that one would try *persistently* to communicate with the other. Many people have made similar pacts. But few have ever experienced a series of events more *outstanding* or more *dramatic* than *Mrs. Wilcox.*

—oo—

In their married life *Mr. and Mrs. Wilcox* had been ideally suited. Both were deeply interested in advancing science. Yet each possessed a *profound* interest in spiritual things.

From the beginning of her literary career *Ella Wheeler Wilcox* had written vividly of *reincarnation.* Through her writings countless thousands became convinced of a life hereafter. In later life *Mrs. Wilcox* became one of the firmest friends *Spiritualism* has ever had.

Robert Passes On

At the heighth of her career *Ella Wheeler Wilcox* was an outstanding woman of the world. Who of us has not heard those words of hers, *"Laugh and the world laughs with you. Cry and you cry alone?"* Her contributions to the *Hearst newspapers* and elsewhere attained international recognition. Probably no other woman of her generation achieved such widespread influence. It is certain few modern writers have ever touched the hearts of so many people so deeply.

Yet on the morning of May 21st 1916 when her beloved husband *Robert* passed into *The Great Beyond* even her own sublime faith deserted her. In her own words she was overwhelmed with grief. For her there followed endless months of deep sorrow.

In her book, *"The Worlds and I."* (*George M. Doran Co.*, 1918) *Mrs. Wilcox* wrote:

"Over and over, solemnly and sacredly, during three decades of years the promise had been made to me. (Mr. Wilcox repeatedly promised to communicate with her after his death). There was belief in my heart that it would be kept, Yet the awful days went into awful weeks and months, and there was no rift in the clouds, no blowing aside of the dark curtains, no

(Cont. Page 11, Col. 1)

SPIRITUALISM IN INDIA

Leading Spiritualists find it difficult to teach and demonstrate the truths of their philosophy but, in spite of the present confusion, many societies, organizations and centers are functioning.

Spiritualism Bows to the Teachings of the Great Messiah and Avatars

"Let all those who are thirsty drink the nectar of Spiritualism and be benefited."

BY PRABHA WHIGG
The Spiritual Healing Center
R. S. Puram Post,
Coimbatore, India

It is with feelings of great pleasure that I am placing before my *Sisters and Brothers of America*, my ideas of the way *Spiritualism* can spread in *India*.

My acquaintance with *Spiritualism* is only two years old. I never knew I was a medium and I never believed that we could so intimately talk with the departed. *How eager they are to communicate with us!*

Early in 1945, I had the pleasure of sitting in a seance with *Mr. and Mrs. V. D. Rishi* who had come to preside over the anniversary of *The Spiritual Healing Centre*, Coimbatore.

I need hardly point out how the *Rishis* have been doing propaganda work in *India* for the last twenty years and more, without earthly influence, conscious of apparent, insuperable, difficulties.

Be that as it may, my first experience was more out of fun than one of sincerity. My husband, my mother-in-law, a younger brother of mine and myself with the Rishis—formed the circle.

Convinced of Survival

It was decided that the *Rishis* should call for my father-in-law the late *Sirdar Lal Whigg* who was the *Superintendent of Police Lahore*, who passed away in 1942.

He was a *Punjabi* and the *Rishis* could have known nothing of him. The table tilted four times. Mr. Rishi told us that it was an indication of the presence of the spirit, whereupon we burst into laughter and told Mr. Rishi that his shaking the table himself and saying it was the spirit return, was too good a pill for us to swallow.

This upset *Mr. Rishi* and he asked us to wait and put questions and test the answers we received. This I thought was something better and began to put several family and personal questions and we got wonderful and accurate answers. I suspected it was a kind of mind-reading and that the *Rishis* had developed that power.

Later on I thought over the matter for several days and had an eager desire to know more of the subject and started reading books on Spiritualism.

I was convinced that there was something scientific about the subject. One day I argued with the *Secretary of the Spiritual Healing Centre* and he gave instances from the *Hindu Scriptures* where such communications had been received and how the *Hindu* orthodox *'Sradha'* ceremonies was only a seance on proper lines.

I said I would like to have some practical demonstrations and that if the messages came through my hand without the help of another, I would be convinced.

Prabha WHIGG

Our very first seance with my husband and the Secretary was a decided success. My father-in-law communicated and said I was fairly mediumistic and that daily prayers and meditation, at a fixed time, would improve my powers. I asked him how I am to believe this and he said that on a particular day he would appear in my dream and tell me several things and convince me in all ways.

On the appointed day I sat by myself with the *Ouija Board* and called my father-in-law but to my surprise I got a message from one who signed *"Traveler"* saying: *"Your father-in-law is busy and will appear in your dream on Saturday night."* On Saturday I had no dream.

I thought the whole thing was a hoax or some such thing. But on Sunday I had one of those finest visions, or was it a prophetic dream, or was it an illusion?

The Ouija Board

Call it by any name but he told me the reasons for his delay; that my astral body was not ready to take the impressions and had to be prepared etc., and added he would tell me several things that are going to happen in the family. All these things have come to pass exactly as foretold.

From that day, I found that I could call a spirit and get messages for others as well as myself on the *Ouija Board*. A certain Revenue Officer who was very much upset over the death of his wife requested us to get into touch with her. I was somehow not sure of the results. I never had seen him before and had not known anything about him.

Strangely enough I consented to sit for a seance with him and I was amazed to find the lady telling the very exact words she gave to her husband just before dying. It was in *tamil*, a language not known to me. She predicted that her daughter's marriage to a particular boy would take place 22 days later and it did happen.

Since then I have been holding seances for several friends and have been able to remove their sorrows and miseries due to the death of their dear kith and kin. I am extremely happy to know that God has given me some power to alleviate the sufferings of "OTHERS".

It does seem a strange situation in *India*, the land of *Yogis, Fakirs*, and *Mystics*, that people should not be able to grasp the real meaning and aim of *Spiritualism*. To the masses it is taboo—for one reason or other. To the few stimulated to interest, it is something as sacred as religion. *But Oh! How few!*

India's "Purdah System"

The few intelligent persons who have got messages from the departed, and holding high position in life never try to tell others, for fear of ridicule, and the fear of being laughed at, deters them bringing to others their experiences. In short they are afraid of being called *"Cranky"!*

There are plenty of mediums in *India* but no one would have the courage to proclaim the truths of *Spiritualism*. I know of one gentleman who is a good medium, but though he printed his messages, he restricted its use to his own circle members.

I know of a young lady who goes into trance every Friday and gives very high philosophical messages but the parents shut her in a room and would not allow even Spiritualists to see her.

India has its *purdah system*, her prejudices, her strict conservatism, and her conventional fanaticism. Which respectable Indian father or husband will gladly consent his daughter or wife taking up public work should she discover she has the God-given gift of Mediumship?

It Will Be Mine!

Then there is the so-called religious person, who holds that it is harmful for us to communicate with the spirits of the departed. They imagine the dead are somewhere in Heaven and by invoking them they will be sent to *Hell*.

Another thinks that ill-luck and ill-health is sure to follow and goes to the extent of sayng that once the dead men are called the house will get haunted! Some will swear that the mediums are sure to become childless! *All Bunkum.*

It is safe to say that for some centuries to come, the human race will be actively engaged in defining the laws which regulate psychic affairs. Fortunately it is a line of study with the peculiar advantage to those who indulge in it that they can pursue in it just as well and probably better from the other side of the veil.

At present, there is work lying to hand for a thousand investigators. The first thing is that a band worshipping outside Nature, of Indian scientists, who instead of should try to throw the searchlight

(Cont. Page 10, Col. 4)

RISHI HONORED By INDIAN SOCIETY

By THE EDITOR

Those who have traveled abroad seeking to learn more about Spiritualism and the vastness of the Spiritualist movement, have met or at least know about *Mr. and Mrs. V. D. Rishi*, organizers of *The Indian Spiritualist Society*, 51, Gordhandas Bldg., Girgaum, Bombay, India.

Nothing could explain their contributions to the field of Spiritualism more than the publication of a document just received from the members of the Indian Spiritualist Society, Karachi, India.

V. D. RISHI

The document is dated May, 1946, and is signed by Gurdasmal C. *Sajnani*, President; K. H. *Nagrani*, Secretary; J. A. *Kapir*, Treasurer and trustees, Dr. K. *Tarabai*, Dr. A. T. *Shaikl*, Professor A. K. *Jiandani* and K. J. *Sapra.*

The document reads:

On behalf of the local branch of the *Indian Spiritualist Society*, we beg to convey to you our sense of heart felt gratitude for what you have done for us during your stay for the last few weeks in our city. We are aware, at what personal sacrifice you have been undertaking these strenuous tours for spreading the message of spiritualism which comforts those whose hearts are lacerated on account of bereavements.

You Sir, have had a life full of interesting episodes. Starting as a Judge in the Indore state, you lost your first wife *Subhadra*, whose death acted as a spur to you to know the mysteries of that land from whose bourne no traveler returns. Many people have lost their dear ones, but very few have from their sorrows been driven to pursue a knowledge of which more and more should be known.

Doyle's Recommendation

Fates brought you, Sir, in contact with your present wife *Mrs. Pribhavatibai* who was destined to unravel the mysteries of *'Parloka,'* and bring that comfort to aching hearts which often neither religion nor reason could give. Your devoted work in this cause has been responsible for placing India on the map of World Spiritualism, and in international circles of spiritualists you rightly hold an honored and enviable place. Scorning delights and living laborious days, you have cared little for the jeers of an unsympathetic world which judges without knowing.

The derisive laughter of the unthinking critic, the hostile antagonism of the unscientific person, and the bitter hostility of the religious maniac have not deterred you from doing what you have all along regarded as a God-given mission. It was not without justification that *Sir Arthur Conan Doyle*, himself a spiritualist of a very high order and a writer of fame hailed you as the *"Apostle of Spiritualism"* and if we may humbly say so, you have amply deserved this epithet.

Mrs. Rishi Praised

During the last few weeks, *Karachi* has had an opportunity to know the worth and value of your heroic efforts, and many are the hearts whose agony you have turned to joy by demonstrating to them that their dear ones survive and are mindful of the interests of those whom they have left behind. The remarkable faculty possessed by you, *Mrs. Rishi*, has helped thousands of people in this country to have solace. That you may be spared many, many years of greater useful activity is the humblest wish and most sincere prayer of your humble admirers.

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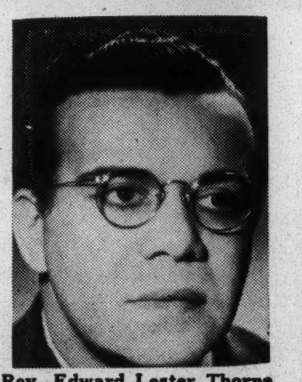
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Psychic Research Today

Spiritualists knew of Telepathy, Clairvoyance, Psychometry, etc., long before scientific investigators knew. While the latter persistently denied their existence, Spiritualists went on calmly demonstrating them.

In time, one may safely predict that psychic researchers will be obliged to endorse the claims of the Spiritualists.

By

Horace Leaf

One hears much less about psychical research today than during and just after the war 1914-18; but this does not signify that it has lessened its interest in supernormal phenomena, although it is obviously not so interested in mediumship for the time being.

It is important for anyone criticising psychical research to understand its main object, which is not to prove that the human soul survives death so much as to discover whether the evidence on which Spiritualists base their belief is reliable. Overlooking this fundamental feature has given rise to a great deal of heart-burning among Spiritualists, who have grown to regard psychical research as a kind of natural opponent.

To those who have sat with first-class mediums and experienced the marvels of clairvoyance, materializations, direct-voice, and so on, it seems intolerable that scientists should sit with the same people only to express doubt, and sometimes make charges against the genuineness of the phenomena.

Famous Testimonials

That a very large number of psychical researchers have been unjust to mediumship cannot be denied, but there have also been a great many who admit all the claims of the Spiritualists, and who have done Spiritualism incalculable good.

Indeed, one may safely say that but for the testimonies of such men as *Sir William Crookes, Sir Oliver Lodge, Dr. Gustave Geley, Dr. L. R. G. Crandon* and *Dr. T. Glen Hamilton*, Spiritualism would not be nearly so effective as it is.

Admittedly we grow to rely more and more upon ourselves, but whatever may be the strength of the edifice, we are erecting, psychical research has contributed not a little to its foundations.

There has, during recent years, been a considerable change of interest in lines of research scientific investigators have adopted. There has, indeed, been something like a return to the lines along which the *English Society for Psychical Research* started about fifty-five years ago.

They—*the original psychical researchers*—attributed immense importance to mental forms of mediumship, notwithstanding there being at the time a galaxy of fine physical mediums in *Great Britain*, in the *United States of America*, and on the *Continent of Europe*.

This attitude shows the deep philosophical interest these remarkable investigators felt in the subject, at a time when materialism might well be said to have been the philosophy of science.

The initial work was done in connection with telepathy and clairvoyance; materialisations and kindred phenomena being relegated to the background. Great praise is owing to these pioneers of psychical research for having the courage to attack the more involved and complicated aspects of mediumship.

What Spiritualism Claims

Subjective phenomena are always more difficult to evaluate than objective, and it is much easier to testify to having seen an object heavier than air levitated by unknown means, or the appearance of an additional mysterious personality at a materialization seance, than to prove that a clairvoyant saw the apparition and received a message from one's deceased uncle.

After more than thirty years close study of these mental aspects of supernormal phenomena, psychical research accumulated a vast amount of evidence proving that such faculties exist; and what is more to the point, many of the researchers believed that they supported the claims of *Spiritualism*.

What may be termed the romantic period of psychical research covers the period which followed, when scientific attention was turned to the manifestations occurring through physical mediums, including Eusapia Palladino, *Mlle Stanislawa Tomczyk, Francesco Carancini and Florence Cook*.

During and after 1914-18 there was a renaissance of this form of experimentation, with mediums like Kathleen Goligher, *"Margery," Frank Decker* and other famous voice mediums. These experiments aroused tremendous public interest, and *Spiritualism* reached a high-water mark of popularity and success.

The S.P.R.'s Position

Since then psychical research has gradually declined, until today little is heard of it. But its efforts have not been suspended, but redirected towards an examination of mental phenomena, in which mediumship plays a very small part.

Thus psychical research is back very much where it was when the *English Society of Psychical Research* was founded in the early "80's of last century, but with an important difference. The relationship between these two periods has, however, been unbroken, because the principle which inspires modern research has sprung from the earlier experiments and findings.

The position is much as follows. —Early experiments of the S.P.R. demonstrated the existence of *telepathy* and *clairvoyance*. The question then arose whether these faculties are normal ones lying latent in the human mind, or whether they were stimulated or projected, as it were, by what *F.W.H. Myers* would have called *metetherial beings*.

"Hard-Boiled" Skeptics

Spiritualists have always inclined to the belief that these senses are in some way the creation of the spirits of departed human beings, a theory which in my opinion, will not stand a moment's serious consideration. It is, however, perfectly reasonable to maintain that in some instances, those of mediumship, spirits do develop and use them.

But it is equally true that many telepathists and clairvoyants know nothing of *Spiritualism* or are opposed to it.

In view of this, the position assumes an aspect different from that which most Spiritualists think; but they need not feel too disappointed since a great concession has been gained for them from psychical researchers they have succeeded in convincing some very *"hardboiled"* sceptics that supernormal faculties and powers *do* exist, and *demand* serious consideration.

And, incidentally, *Spiritualism* has, quite inadvertently, been the means of developing a entirely new phase of psychology, one, which, but for *Spiritualism* would probably never have been thought of.

Rhine's Experiments

This new branch of psychology is now known as *Extra-Sensory Perception*, a shorter name now being more and more favored, namely, *Psi Faculty*. It is to the credit of the *United States of America* that they sponsored this line of investigation from the first, the principal work having been done by *Dr. J. B. Rhine* of *Duke University*, Durham, North Carolina.

With characteristic tardiness, *Britain* followed suit with its usual skepticim and at first without success; but the persistence of the American researchers, accompanied by the growing respect which other countries must now pay to them, has resulted in convincing experiments. Now E. S. P., or *Psi Faculties* have been proven to exist in Europeans centers which were at first inclined to reject them.

The situation in England is particularly interesting. *Dr. S. G. Soal* of London University has become an authority on *telepathy;* while *Dr. J. Hettinger* has become an authority on Psychometry, a line of research little favored since *Dr. Rhodes Buchanan*, of Little Rock, Arkansas, discovered the faculty in 1842.

Reality of Spirit

The story about *Dr. Hettinger* is particularly pleasing. He actually received his *Doctor of Science Degree* through his thesis on *Psychometry*, which was published in book form under the title of *"The Ultra Perceptive Faculty*. For these experiments, he used as his subjects well-known English mediums.

The basis of these studies, as already intimated, is not to prove survival, but to prove that our normal special senses do not comprise all that we have. That beneath the threshold of consciousness there lie others which can be stimulated into partial activity under certain circumstances, and which have the habit of manifesting unexpectedly.

Whether these faculties are merely the vestiges of some that were once normally active in man's primitive state, or whether they are the rudiments of new faculities which are destined in the course of time to rise permanently above the limit of consciousness and become normal, is not yet decided.

There is, however, a third possibility, one which experienced *Spiritualists* will most strongly espouse—that they are really spiritual faculties belonging to man's spiritual body, and which will function normally when he passes from earth to his next state of existence.

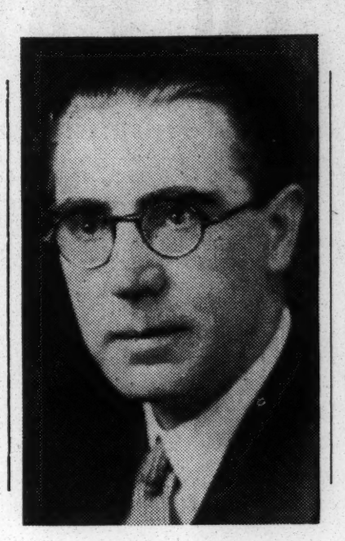
Reluctant Endorsers

It is not likely that psychical researcher, who prefer the purely material point of view, and who restrict their thinking to this planet of ours, will for a long time be able to appreciate this point of view; but experience has taught us not to worry about them, as they already lag far behind *Spiritualists*.

Spiritualists knew of *Telepathy, clairvoyance, psychometry* and kindred faculties and powers long before scientific investigators knew; and while the later persistently denied their existence, *Spiritualists went on calmly demonstrating them.*

The present line of cleavage between *Spiritualism* and psychical research is, not the existence of supernormal faculties, but their scope. Whereas psychical researchers want to restrict them to this material world of ours, Spiritualists insist that they also penetrate into the spiritual world, and enable us to communicate with those who once lived on earth, but have since died. *One may safely predict that in time, psychical researchers will be obliged to endorse this claim also.*

Returns To Scotland



Psychic Observer

Horace Leaf, F.R.G.S., 18 *Athol Crescent, Edinburgh, Scotland; author of the book, "What Mediumship Is"* (*) *. . . a best-seller in the field of Spiritualism, for the past* 10 *years, because it is easy to read and can be understood by those who aspire to the attainment of various phases of psychic unfoldment.*

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THE DEVIL TO PAY

If, according to our opponents, all modern spirit manifestations are the work of deceiving devils, how can one be sure that the angels which appeared to the prophets, the Apostles and to Jesus, were not also the works of the devil?

The whole "Devil Theory" is illogical and destructive of the true Christian position.

By
ARTHUR FORD
2326 Southwest Twenty-first Ave.,
MIAMI, FLORIDA

Some of the arguments which ultra-orthodox religionists use against Spiritualism knock the props out from under the very religion for which they profess such devotion. Two pamphlets have recently come to me through the mails.

One of them is called "*Spiritualism and the Bible*" and the other bears the startling title, "*Spiritualism is the work of the devil.*"

The first of these booklets contains a list of questions among which I found this: "*Do you know that God commanded that a Spiritualist Medium should not be permitted to live?*'

Then another, "*Do you know that death by stoning was God's sentence for Spirit Mediums?*"

These are rather amazing questions when propounded by followers of the greatest of all *Mediums.* What puzzles me is why these devout religionists do not carry out the injunctions laid upon them. Is it possible that they lack faith in their God, or could it be that they are infinitely more humane and kindly than the God who is supposed to have issued the command?

What Do They Fear?

Most of the texts quoted in these booklets are drawn from the first five books of the *Old Testament.* Any student of Biblical history knows that the laws of *Leviticus* and *Deuteronomy* were propounded by the established Mediums of the *Mosaic Order.* They were jealous of any competition and laid down laws which would penalize anyone who sought to function spiritually outside the institution of which they were the head. One seldom comes across a text from the later books of the *Old Testament* or from the *New Testament* which can be used against psychic manifestations.

The second little booklet is highly amusing, for it argues so vehemently for the *devil* that one is forced to the conclusion that the writer must be personally acquainted with his *Satanic Majesty* and all his emissaries.

Of course, if he is on intimate terms with the *devil* he must have first hand information and I cannot dispute him. I enjoy no such interesting friendship with his *Satanic Majesty.* However, when he drags in texts torn from their context and twists them about to mean what he wants them to mean, I am conviced that he has adopted some of the artiful ways of his unholy pal. The writer frankly tells us that "*the devil is adept at making things appear to be something which they are not.*"

If the arguments used by this writer and by other uninformed persons of his ilk were true they would serve not to destroy *Spiritualism* alone, but would at one blow destroy the whole foundation of *Christianity.* If modern spirit manifestations are all the work of deceiving devils, how can one be sure that the angels which appeared to the prophets, the *Apostles* and to *Jesus,* were not all the works of the devil?

How can we know that the appearance of *Jesus* after his death was not a deception engineered by the devil? Obviously those disciples who witnessed *His* appearances, one hundred and twenty are reported to have seen *Him* on one occasion, were all men and women as we are, and so just as liable to be the victims of deception.

Arthur FORD

This whole "*devil theory*" is so illogical and destructive of the *Christian* position that one marvels at the stupidity of those who use it. If the so-called dead cannot be seen and identified today, then there is no certainty that *Jesus* ever identified *Himself* to *His* disciples after *His* death on the cross.

Jesus' Answer

I would remind those earnest souls who so glibly use this argument that everytime they do so they strike at all revealed religion. Apart from psychic phenomena *The Infinite Intelligence* has never been able to reveal anything to mankind. The source histories of all religions make this very clear.

Jesus met and answered this same devil argument. In Luke 11:19 He said, "*If I, by Beelzebub cast out demons* (demon in the Greek means Familiar spirit) *by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore shall they be your judges.*"

So, if modern spirit manifestations are the work of the devil, whose work are all those similar phenomena recorded in the Bible? It seems that the writer of these previously mentioned booklets is "*hoist by his own petard.*"

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Decker Test Seance

(Cont. from Page 1, Col. 3)

enough to vote, but who can compete with any politician." We need more young *Patsy's* on the Earthplane today.

All guests of the evening received one or more spirit visitors during the two hour seance. *Ralph G. Pressing* of the *Psychic Observer,* was greeted by seven spirits, most of them close friends of *Juliette Ewing Pressing* who was unable to come to New York that evening. One spirit gave Mr. Pressing the Masonic grip.

Absolutely Convinced

Mrs. Dwight Clark was embraced by her late husband and greeted by the celebrated Senator D. U. Fletcher of Florida who had fought in Congress for rights to Spiritualists. *Jimmy Baxter* came through to his mother, *Kathryn Baxter,* noted trance medium. *Mrs. E. B. Weir* was informed by *Patsy* that she may be a voice medium. *Ethel Corbin* heard from her loved one in spirit. Then *Patsy,* in glee, took *Ethel Corbin's* policewoman's badge and handed it secretly to *Madame Konstantin* on the other side of the room.

An outstanding instance of the evening was the manifestation of the son of *Mrs. Fred Coombs* of Oklahoma City who gave her one of the first assurances of his spirit living, although she had been seeking proof in many seances throughout the country without being "*absolutely convinced*" . . . and then whispered secret information which only the mother could hear, because the spirit guides *Bert Wells* and *Patsy,* tactfully led the other guests in singing softly.

The technique, used by the spirit operators, when they ask the members of the circle to hum softly during individual communications, is definitely insisted upon for three reasons (i.e.) to make it possible for intimate messages to be given without possible embarrassment; to keep the sitters from carrying on needless conversation, even though in a whisper; and to hold what is commonly called "the vibrations" in perfect harmony and accord . . . exacting full cooperation from every sitter at all times. ED.

Two old friends came through for the prominent attorney Sidney Rosenbaum. Violet Barth was told she would be a medium. "Royal Purple, the healing guide of *William McCartney,* came through with power, urging all present to "*spread the truth of spiritualism and lead the world to understanding of spirit truth.*"

The son of *Madame Konstantin* before dancing with his mother, assured her that his missing cousin, age 21, was still alive, having been a soldier for the *Czech* cause, then forced into the *German* army and finally in the *Russian* forces where he is at present. Fondly the son told his mother he was with her when she was horse-back riding, making sure she did not fall.

"*Habib,*" spirit collaborator of *Mrs. J. F. D. Hoge,* greeted all present, as did "*Ben,*" the guide of *Mrs. Bodin. Ben* revealed his spirit-light plainly, and was escorted by Mrs. Bodin's teacher *Curran, Father Randall* and *Dr. Hale,* as well as *Saundry* of *Ed Bodin's* band.

Jim Riley Speaks

The father of your reporter, *Judge Francis Bodin,* also manifested and spoke to all, called his son by a nick-name not known to the medium or others present.

The late actor *Conway Tearle,* came through for *Jay Strong.* And it was *Mr. Tearle* who early in the seance admonished *Jay* for carelessly crossing his legs, thus interfering with the vibrations of reception.

Patsy also demonstrated his dark room eye-sight when he found a hidden tie-clasp belonging to Helgi Briem, Consul General from Iceland. Patsy shook hands with at least twenty guests. He touched many others. His hand is quite small.

A test was made by *Madame Konstantin* who at *Patsy's* request, sat on the medium's lap, placing a hand in his mouth, as *Bert Wells* and *Patsy* spoke from all corners of the room in quick succession. No human body could move about that fast. While this took place, all guests held hands to remove any doubt.

Jim Riley, one of *Decker's* teachers, gave the benediction at 10:45 reminding all present that true friendship is stronger than diamonds, forever sparkling after material things have crumbled into dust. And thus one more *Frank Decker* seance had made history for *Spiritualism.*

Research the Researchers

Your psychic reporter salutes *Frank Decker, Master Test Medium,* who has given seances around the world for royalty as well as the comman man and woman. Eight times he was tested in the presence of newspaper reporters, by a certain prominent and self-elected researcher.

Such pseudo psychic researchers usually admit the phenomena to be genuine, but such characters, especially the magicians and erstwhile "*mind-readers*" generally find an "out" by calling the demonstrations "*hypnotic clairvoyance*" to escape a definite "*yes*" or "*no.*"

Such was the case, when this certain magician "*tested*" *Decker.* Orchids go to *Patsy* who says: "*The spirits have already researched the researchers and found them phonies.*"

Decker has been written up in widely circulated publications such as the *Saturday Evening Post, Hearst* newspapers and syndicates. Here is why his examiners have always liked him, as told by a newspaperman: "Decker is not only sincere, but has a sense of humor and is not a fanatic. His personality is refreshing and tolerant, revealing an attitude of good will and love of neighbor. He has few secret vices that '*despiritualize*" him—causing friends to make apologies.

About the Medium

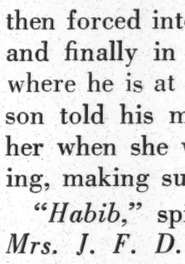
"He is a typical American husband and '*hail fellow well met*' who is popular with reporters as well as students of psychic phenomena. He is respected by British psychical authorities, and is always welcome in England. He wears no mystic turban nor does he assume a hallowed expression. His only emblem is the smile of fellowship."

The roll-call of the premiere seance, given by Frank Decker at his newly organized *Gotham Psychic Center,* 334 West 12th St., New York City. Nov. 14th, 1946 goes down in history as follows:

Violet *Barth,* Mr. and Mrs. O. M. *Barth,* Kathryn *Baxter,* Lily H. *Beihoff,* Mr. and Mrs. Ed *Bodin,* Mr. and Mrs. Helgi *Briem,* Mrs. Dwight *Clark,* Mrs. Fred *Coombs,* Ethel *Corbin,* Mrs. Frank *Decker,* Mr. and Mrs. Michael *Gladych,* Mr. and Mrs. J. F. D. *Hoge,* Mr. and Mrs. Lewis V. *Hoover,* Albert *Johnson, Sr.,* Albert *Johnson, Jr.,* Madame Leopoldine *Konstantin,* Samuel *Markowitz,* Mr. and Mrs. William *McCartney,* Mrs. Jennie Benjamin *Petty,* R. G. *Pressing,* Bernard *Rabin,* Sidney *Rosenbaum,* Jay *Strong,* Mrs. Richard *Touw* and Mrs. Ed. N. *Weir.*

New York Psychology Forum
Ann Koenig, Director

For the past few years, the New York Psychology Forum has been patronized by enthusiastic audiences. Meetings, under the direction of Ann Koenig, are scheduled every Tuesday 7:45 P. M. at Steinway Hall (Room 608); 113 West 57 th St., New York City.



Miss Koenig

Noted speakers, outstanding Spiritualists and Mediums, and other leaders in the field of Psychic Phenomena have been presented at the Psychology Forum (i.e.) Walter Russell, Thomas Sugrue, Henry C. Roberts, John Myers, Edgar Cayce and Eileen Garrett.

For the past quarter century, Miss Koenig has specialized in the practice of Advanced Vocational Guidance. She has been the means of helping scores of talented people find their way to success through following their natural attributes. She resides at 64 W. 9th St. in the city of New York.

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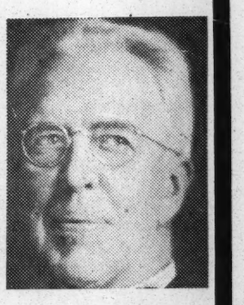

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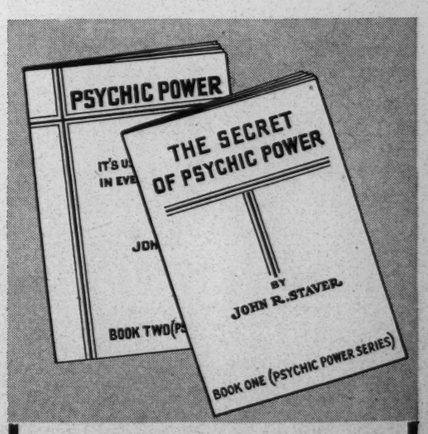

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– By

H. W. EDWARDS

79, Monkhams Ave., Woodford Green
Essex, England

Gifts of the spirit are generally developed to follow certain well defined lines, such as those associated with physical and mental mediumship, automatic writing, photography, painting and drawing. We seem to have reached, or assume that we have done so, the limits in regard to most of these phases and, except for standards of merit, this may be true.

In regard to art, however, the field is such a wide one that it is doubtful if anything beyond the fringe has been touched. There are probably good reasons to explain, if not justify this fact.

In the first place, any expression of psychic art has the disadvantage that it does not prove the existence of a discarnate being in the definite manner that a materialization, direct-voice or clairaudient power can, by its evidence, offer proof.

Artistic Mediumship

There is also the further aspect that it is a somewhat intimate form of mediumship only the finished result of which can be offered for public appraisal. It also demands conditions rather different from the other forms of phenomena mentioned and, bringing it down to the lowest—but often the most immediately important—consideration, it does not put much butter on the bread of the artist.

All these, and many other factors, tend to limit the scope of artistic mediumship but, lest anyone should think that art has but limited fields of expression, there are before us in the normal channels the French school of thought which produces the work of *Picasso*, and in the case of sculpture the work of *Epstein*.

It is not the object of this article to deal with the merits of such expressions of artistic creation, but merely to use them to illustrate the fact that the method of expression has infinite further possibilities.

Automatic Writing

The work of *George Daisley*, the London (England) medium, is known to the public of Britain through his powers of clairvoyance, clairaudience and psychometry, and only a few personal friends and privileged persons are aware that he is equally at home in regard to automatic writing and in the field of art through his psychic powers.

Generally speaking, his automatic writing is what is known as mirror writing—that is to say, it can only be read by holding it to a mirror—and occasionally when he has difficulty in public in getting a name clairaudiently (such as that of a Chinese) he calls for paper and pencil and writes it in mirror writing for the person concerned.

During the blitz, his seance room at home was badly damaged and when the walls were repaired they were distempered a light color. This gave the spirit world a fine "*blackboard*" of which they took full advantage. When he was entranced—and at the most the room was only barely lighted by a 5-watt ruby light — they would often write upon the walls and sign their work.

Spirit Painting

Amongst the writers well known to the public was *W. T. Stead*. The other side have since lost this "*blackboard*" for the room was papered after the war ended and a proper respect has been paid to the fact, so they use paper on a table now just as we do.

George Daisley is ambidextrous but more generally left-handed. In automatic writing only very exceptionally does he use any other hand. On a few occasions, however, he has had very unusual results. For example, one line would read right to left, another left to right, a third upside down, and a fourth right way up in quite normal writing and a whole sheet would thus be filled.

On one occasion, two pencils were in use simultaneously, one in the left hand and the other in the right. Sometimes the result has been a letter from a loved one on the other side. The writings are invariably signed and some people have professed to recognize not only the signature but also the general characteristics of phrasing and writing. However, as his great ambition is towards physical mediumship this and his artistic work are treated more as hobbies or relaxation.

"*Modus Operandi*"

I had hoped to reproduce a specimen of his work but black and white do not do justice to the artistry of the colors. He sits upon the floor in front of the fire or in an arm chair, resting the paper on a piece of stiff material, takes a ruler and divides the paper in two. The rest is freehand entirely.

By his side is a box of colored pencils (actually "*Solaqua*" water color pencils, designed for entirely different work, but there are few artistic materials available yet in Britain), with sharpened points.

Without looking into the box, he takes a pencil and draws or etches, and from time to time changes his crayon. Having completed the right side of the line he proceeds to do the other which always balances perfectly in outline without any erasure or alteration or effort to balance.

In a matter of hours—some one day, some another—the work is finished. It represents the spiritual horoscope of a soul. One side the past and the other the future. The detail drawings, birds, pyramids, etc., are very small but clear in the original and the mirror writing is very neatly inserted as part of the pattern. Interpretation is given through automatic writing.

Mirror Writing

Over the years he has done a number of paintings some in water colors, others in oils, usually of Guides, but one done in 1937 is a large canvas 3 feet, 6 inch by 2 feet, three inches, which depicts the Christ as the center figure with a Roman soldier on the left and a High Priest to the right.

Another phase was without brushes at all. These paintings were done upside down and the artist "*Roland*" signed in mirror writing in pencil. There was no idea as to what was being created as the medium dipped his fingers into various oil paints and the difficulty of distinguishing the pattern was added to by the use of a ruby light.

George Daisley has not been trained in any way for drawing or painting, but the range of expression thus shown so far seems to add point to the earlier remarks that this is indeed largely an uncharted sea of mediumship to which much more attention may well be given so that some of the treasures of Heaven may find a means of expression to brighten this side of life.

—oo—

TO VISIT UNITED STATES SPRING—SUMMER, 1947

Psychic Observer

GEORGE DAISLEY

This noted English medium plans to visit Canada and the United States in the near future . . . next May or June, according to H. W. Edwards.

The editors of Psychic Observer can vouch for his superb public demonstrations of mental mediumship, having heard him on several occasions, during their visits to London.

Churches and Spiritualist Societies, desiring to engage his services, will please contact Mr. Edwards, whose address is given at the beginning of his article on this page.

—oo—

She Is Featured At Buffalo's Center of Psychic Science

The movement of Modern Spiritualism needs new mediums. From all over the country, dozens of "budding mediums" are being presented for public demonstrations. Of these, Betty Possehl is one of the most outstanding. She is a lecturer, mental and "voice" medium.

Betty POSSEHL

In her case, "voice" means that she has developed a phase of mediumship sometimes referred to as "solar plexus" voice communication. During her public platform and private demonstrations in the light, voices can be heard by not only the medium but by those sitting fifteen to twenty feet from her. They seem to come from the region of her solar plexus.

These voices, which she repeats and relays to the audience, convey to her the greater part of the spirit messages given.

Mrs. Possehl has, for several years, demonstrated her mediumship at The Center of Psychic Science, Hotel Statler, Buffalo, N. Y. and Lily Dale Assembly, Lily Dale, N. Y., as well as other churches and camps in the East.

The Psychic Observer

Registered Trade Mark

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DR. MARCUS BACH FINDS ROADS LEADING TO GOD

A Review of the Book "They Have Found A Faith"

This University Professor includes a chapter on SPIRITUALISM

By DORTCH CAMPBELL

Dr. Marcus Bach declares that all roads that lead to *God* are good. He reached this conclusion after a journey along the highways and byways of American religion. He tells of what he discovered in his book titled *"They Have Found a Faith."* (Dale News, Inc. $3.00)

The Pressings sent me this book, and I am glad it came, because it increases my own faith in humanity in a day of doubt when so many nostrums, both spiritual and material, are being offered for the ills to which flesh is heir—nostrums that do naught else than lead to man's spiritual and physical undoing.

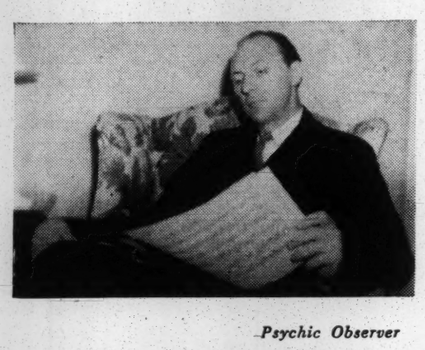
"They Have Found a Faith" is a little journey into the more or less obscure religions of our times. This book proves to me once more that faith can not die and that Truth crushed to earth shall rise again even out on the highways and the byways and the isolated spots of the world! The errors and the sophistries of men can not stifle the onward march of Life from this Planet of Pain to other worlds of everlasting glory.

Natural, Dramatic Style

"They Have Found a Faith" is an excellent book and withal an interesting book. The scholarly professor in the *School of Religion* at the *University of Iowa* writes clearly; he writes dramatically, but above all he has a deep insight into human nature—a very great essential in writing any kind of book—which enables him to perceive the foibles and frailties of those he lauds for their sincerity and exalted purposes.

Dr. Bach made his excursions

HE ATTENDED A MATERIALIZATION SEANCE



Psychic Observer

DR. MARCUS BACH, Professor of The School of Religion at THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA, Iowa City, Iowa; author of "THEY HAVE FOUND A FAITH," reviewed recently in The New York Times . . based a chapter of his book on his experiences while attending a seance at CHESTERFIELD SPIRITUALIST CAMP, Chesterfield, Indiana. The medium was FANCHION HARWOOD, noted for her psychic gift of materialization.

—oo—

into *Spiritualism*, the *Oxford Group, Psychiana, Jehovah's Witnesses*, the *Foursquare Gospel*, the *Kingdoms of Father Divine*, the *Bahai's Faith and Unity*. Regarding his research the gifted religious analyst wrote: *"The areas of doubt and conflict in the American religious structure demanded first hand information about what people believe. As my search continued, the sociological aspects became more significant, and every discovery argued for a better and more intelligent understanding of the faiths men live by. But underlying any highfalutin analysis, so far as I was concerned, were dramatic elements and exciting episodes that made up one of the most thrilling of America's romances."*

Pressing Answers

Every excursion the religious educator made was romantic and thrilling and of great historical if not religious value, but sections or chapters which appeal to me most in *"They Have Found a Faith"* are those devoted to Spiritualism and *Frank B. Robinson's* Psychiana.

Dr. Bach, of course, went to *Lily Dale*, fountainhead of *Spiritualism*, to get first hand information, and there he was the guest of *Ralph G. Pressing*, editor of the PSYCHIC OBSERVER.

Regarding *Mr. Pressing*, the religious editor said: *"He had the keen decisive characteristics of the successful American businessman, and there was an air of confidence and security about everything he did and said."*

Dr. Bach may have gone to the mecca of *Spiritualism* to scoff, but he certainly remained to pray.

I find great interest in a conversation between *Mr. Pressing* and *Dr. Bach* as to whether *Spiritualism* is a philosophy, a science or a religion. The Iowa professor asked him: *"Is spiritualism a religion?"* and the answer came back quickly: *"Heavens, yes! Why not? If it isn't a religion, what is it?"*

Spiritualism IS Religion

Say, rather, Mr. Pressing told him, that every religion is based on *Spiritualism*, and that is as true as gospel.

But I would also add my mite here, if so permitted, to that conversation by saying that *Spiritualism* is not only a religion but a *science* — the *science* of biology and of life, for if it were not a science it would not be a religion. The true part of any religion is its science.

Dr. Bach went with *Mr. Pressing* to witness demonstrations at Chesterfield, Indiana, where there is a *"Trail of Religions,"* symbolizing the unbroken tradition of spiritualism. Remarkable results came through the mediumship of the gifted *Clifford Bias* and *Fanchion Harwood*.

Bach's Sister Speaks!

I have said that the scholarly university professor may have come to scoff but remained to pray and this was especially true when his own sister, dead twenty long years, materialized with a *"Marc, dear—Marc, dear—Marc, dear."* His sister *Paula* also kissed him goodbye when the seance with Mrs. Harwood ended—a touching bit of sentiment for that which must have begun with intellectual coldness.

"All roads that lead to God are good;
What matters it, your faith or mine?
Both center at the goal divine
Of love's eternal brotherhood?"

I am not so certain that all roads are good but I do know that all roads which lead to *God and Eternal Life* must be good no matter what they are labeled. *Dr. Bach* found good—much good—in *Psychiana* even as I find because *Dr. Robinson* has based his religion on *The Spirit of God*, which is not something to mock or sound with our superstitions and vagaries.

A Sympathetic Effort

Spiritualists believe in the continuity and the eternity of life. *Frank Robinson* believes in Life though he calls it *God*. And so do I believe in that *"Be Still and know that I AM God,"* for I have found in this *Eternal Life*, call it what you will, something tremendously powerful.

"The energy which is God," Frank Robinson told Dr. Bach, *"is best found in quiet. Like the tornado with the space of calm in its heart, so the restless, ever-throbbing and heaving rhythm of God is eternal peace when understood."*

Words that ring true as if coming from a true seer. And I am persuaded that none of these seven modern religious sects was organized in vain or without a purpose. And I say once more that it delights my heart that *Dr. Marcus Bach has written sympathetically regarding their efforts to lead men and women into a greater faith of that throbbing energy which some men call God and I call Life.*

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SPIRITUALISM IN INDIA

(Continued from Page 2, Col. 3)

inside and not be indifferent to the *Phenomena of Psychism* and the observations made through Mediums.

Far from encouraging such pursuits some of them ridicule their infreres of international reputation by doubting them as *"Senile"* people. They should not approach the subject in a slip-shod manner while being aware of the necessity of persistent efforts in their own domain.

Secondly, aii facts of spiritual phenomena should be collected, analysed and deductions drawn in accordance with laws, not of their senses but the laws of the spirit realm. No knowledge can be acquired without time and study and psychic research, which involves the profoundest questions of vital importance to humanity, has a prior right upon the more intelligent class in the country.

Study and Devotion

Thirdly, home circles should all be contacted and their experience tested and there should be a board of psychic workers to guide them. This requires study and devotion of trained intellects and submission to the domination of a single purpose.

Fourthly, there should be a newspaper on Spiritualistic matters, ideas and the philosophy of *Spiritualism* and the advantages therefrom given in simple language. Imagine there is only one paper in *India* for 400 millions of people and that in *Hindi* language —a language which is unknown to many and known only in Northern India.

People talk of God-Almighty and His help to humanity and Spiritualism alone will give them a better and concrete grasp. If one is convinced that one's dear ones are living and some of them in higher planes can give wonderful help to their descendants, is it not possible to imagine a little more and think that God, the ruler of spirits and master of Angels can live in our hearts and feel *"The kingdom of God is within us."*

Hindu Spiritual Magazine

Spiritualism was brought first before the American public, in 1848, by the *Fox Sisters* and though the Oriental scriptures are full of such manifestations, it was not until 1864 that it was actually studied by a band of *Bengali* gentlemen in the village of *Amrita Bazaar*. The messages were published and it ran to several editions and they called the same *"Paraloker Katha."*

In 1907, a psychical society was formed under the presidency of *Dr. Peebles* and for four years it gave out to all the intelligent public all about Spiritualism and its implications.

This magazine — *"The Hindu Spiritual Magazine"* was doing very good work while the organizer *Mahatma Sisir Kumar* was alive.

The Theosophical Society gave up the investigation of all spiritual phenomena after the slander and calumny on *Madame Blavatsky* by the *Coulomb Tragedy*. One has only to turn to the pages of The London Lectures 1907 by *Dr. Annie Besant* as to the reasons which made them give up this important aspect of investigating Spiritualistic phenomena.

Bishop Leadbeater was a great occultist and he has left a mine of information about the various worlds, and its inhabitants. After his death, no one would venture to take up the subject and dry philosophy is given about the existence of the Masters and one has to *believe* in their existence and guidance.

If people only knew how they can talk to their kith and kin, the description of the various spheres given by them—people who actually live there, that personality survives and all such information by actual contact, what a great change would come over *India*.

A Cry in the Wilderness

I placed this fact before one of my *Angelic Guides* and his message is typical of his humorous ways of putting things. He said: *"Who wants or listens to high spiritual matters when all thoughts are centered on worldly happiness and worldly prosperity. Material possessions seem to satisfy most people. They realize their folly only after they come over here. Our voice is like a cry in the wilderness. Responsive people should invoke and get inspired by High Masters."*

How great is the help rendered by spirits will be clear when I say that I have a relation of mine who called his father at one of our seances, and after certain personal questions had been answered the

(Continued on Page 11, Col. 5)

She Conducts Psychic Center At Mansfield, Ohio

For many years, Edna Brennen has been conducting spiritual work at her psychic center, 20½ South Main Street in the city of Mansfield, Ohio.

Psychic Observer
Edna Brennen

Mrs. Brennen, a mental medium, resides on the Lily Dale Assembly grounds, Lily Dale, New York during the summer months. She owns a cottage on Cleveland Ave.

In addition to her public Sunday and Wednesday services in Mansfield, Mrs. Brennen sets aside several hours each day for private individual consultation by appointment.

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ELLA WHEELER WILCOX

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 5)

sound to break the killing silence of empty space.

"Somewhere beyond all this I believed my Robert was living and loving me and longing to communicate with me. I knew it must be so. I knew the mere cessation of breath in the body could not destroy such a mighty love as ours. . . . That wonderful individuality, even that wonderful personality, I felt, still existed, and with them, memory and love. . . . I believed with my brain but the soul of me cried in anguish for the proof, the proof. . . . Every breath was a prayer for Light and Knowledge. I woke with prayer. I lived in prayer. I fell asleep in prayer."

In her search for proof *Mrs. Wilcox* visited California where she contacted many brilliant souls, scores of the most gifted mediums and all of the leading spiritual movements. At one private seance there were flowers on the table and a small trumpet. The flowers were deftly removed from the table and pinned in her hair; she felt soft lingering touches and heard gentle whispers.

Through the Ouija Board

Near the close of that particular seance a man's voice spoke her name. The voice said that her husband was trying to contact her but that he was not able to do so yet. *"To reach a material world by immaterial means is not easy,"* continued the voice, *"It requires study. Your husband will come to you when you return home. He bids me tell you this."*

Worn out with suffering *Mrs. Wilcox* returned to her home at Short Beach, on the Connecticut Sound. There in "The Bungalow" which she and *Robert Wilcox* had loved so dearly her first message came through from *The Great Beyond.* It came through the medium of the *ouija board.*

Describing the occasion in her own words, *Mrs. Wilcox* said:

"I had tried the ouija board with professional psychics. Nothing much had come. But one night when a friend, not professionaly psychic came who had never seen a board before, the moment she touched it this tremendous experience came."

Robert Communicates

"It was in the early evening of September 10, 1917, *that the door opened, Mrs. B. a New Haven friend came to call. I had just purchased a ouija board of my own which was lying on the table. I asked my caller if she had ever tried the board.*

" 'No,' she said, 'and I would love to. I think it would be most interesting to experiment with it.'

"Both my caller and I were shaken by a power which beggars description. It was like an electric shock. The board seemed to be a thing alive. It moved with such force and speed that we could not follow it.

"I called to my visiting friend, Mrs. Randall, who was in an adjoining room, to come to our assistance. She came, and gave her whole attention to the letters touched by the pointer. Neither of us at the board was able to read them, so great was the speed. The letters were now written down by the watcher, and when the pointer rested she read them out, and they formed these sentences:

" 'Brave one, keep up your courage. Love is all there is. I am with you always. I await your arrival.'

"When I heard those sentences read out after experiencing the electric shock of their transmission, there was no longer any question or doubt in my mind. My message had come! I was in touch with my Robert! He had kept his promise!

'I asked how long I must wait in the body before going to him. The answer was: 'Time is naught; hope for bliss with me; I am incomplete without you. Two halves make a whole; we will finish in Nirvana.'

"This was the beginning of a series of most remarkable conversations with a freed soul in the world beyond. On the next sitting, September 13*th, we had perhaps half an hour at the board, receiving remarkable communications when Mrs. B—'s husband came in quietly, trying not to disturb us.*

Spirit Communications

"I remarked, 'Robert, can you tell us who has just come into the room?' The answer was, 'Yes.' 'Then tell me,' I replied. Mrs. Randall who was acting as our scribe, said the letters seemed to make only jargon. They were given again and the sentence was 'Quinnipac Club, our last game.' To us this sentence carried no meaning, but my friend's husband, a practical business man and popular clubman, said quietly, 'The last time your husband ever appeared at the Quinnipac Club I was his partner at auction.'

"Neither his wife nor I knew of this incident. Surely there can be no explanation of 'sub-conscious mind' or 'unconscious muscles' given to this message. I then asked, 'Robert, have you a message for your friend?'

"Instantly the answer came, 'Better try some other game V. W. B. quitter.' I felt embarassed until Mr. B—, with a quiet laugh said, 'That night I played with your husband until after midnight, when I said I must go home. He replied, 'You are a quitter, you had better try some other game.'

"One night I asked why, since the communication seemed so fully established now, he had not come to me during those terrible months of lonely search. At once came the reply, 'Your tears hung a veil between.'

Life Beyond

" 'Tell me what your life is like now?' I questioned at another sitting.

" 'The ...same life, only used more intelligently.'

"I asked if he met a friend who had died recently.

"Answer: 'No, she is not on my plane. My work is different—meeting souls shot into eternity. All is confusion for them. Equanimity is my gift. I supply it to those killed in the shock of battle.'

"Equanimity was his gift here, and it would follow as a matter of course that it was his possession there.

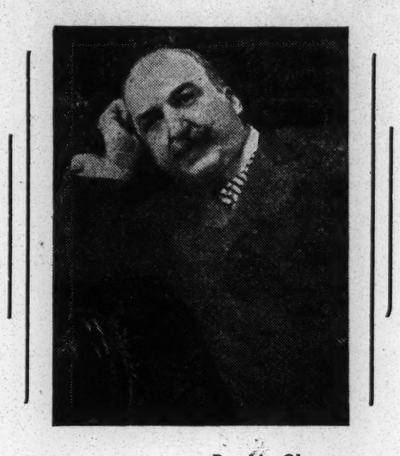
"I asked if he would give me the names of those who were associated with him in his work on the astral plane.

"Answer: 'It is forbidden.'

"I asked if he would help me to retain health while on earth.

"Answer: 'I am but an instrument in His hand. Health is of the soul. Body is naught.'

Though "dead," he was able to communicate with his famous wife . . . thus proving the truth of personal conscious survival.



Psychic Observer

Into the contented life of Ella Wheeler Wilcox, tragedy entered when Robert Wilcox (above) passed from this life May 21*st,* 1916 *. . . after thirty-two years of marriage made radiant by mutual devotion. This picture shows Mr. Wilcox in* 1912.

Dictates Book from Beyond

At regular sittings that season *Mrs. B and Mrs. Wilcox* carried on with the *ouija board.* Each occasion proved more enlightening than the last. From the other side of life *Mr. Wilcox dictated a book* on the continuity of their love life for *seven* incarnations. Because *Ella Wheeler Wilcox* was to pass on so soon that most remarkable book was never published though parts of it appeared in various magazine articles.

Among the more outstanding chapters of the book was the one which was dictated by *Robert Wilcox* from *The Great Beyond* on November 12th 1917. It was dictated in the same maner through the medium of the ouija board to *Mrs. B. and Ella Wheeler Wilcox* with *Mrs. Randall* doing the transcribing. The beginning of the chapter read:

"This chapter was revealed to me by the graciousness of Viavasate Manu by means of pictures stored in the archives of the universe, made by vibrations. Each object, each act, each thought, which ever existed in any world, is recorded in indestructible films of etheric matter by means of vibration.

" 'Viavasate Manu permitted me to see unrolled the whole picture. I saw myself and you, and all the multitude in the golden city of Atlantis, and our daily lives, our friends, our bridal couch, the pathetic sacrifice of Rhada, High Priestess of the Sun, who gave herself for love of her sister Isis, the temple dancer, beloved and branded by Eiram-Hon, Crown Prince, and only son of Emperor Milidh and Scota.

" 'You were the lovely Princess Ilia and I was Pan, general of the Emperor's army. You were the star far above my head. I saw the hosts of Arhinan, Lord of Evil, ruler of the nether world, advancing upon the city. I saw us die, murdered on our bridal couch. One blow severed our two heads, so tightly were we clasped together.' "

Humorous Messages

All of these sittings with the *ouija board* took place in "The Bungalow" at Short Beach, Connecticut, where *Mrs. Wilcox* and *Robert* had shared so many happy years. Oftentimes humorous incidents came up. In writing of these, *Mrs. Wilcox* said:

"These very human and characteristic touches gave the experiences more reality, as did a later reproof to me, when I interrupted his dictation by speaking to Mrs. B. He stopped and wrote, 'Ella, don't butt in.' (His little imperious ways with me on earth, rebuking me when he felt I needed it, were part of his many attractions for me.) When Mrs. Randall read out this sentence we all burst out laughing, and the pointer scurried over the board, and wrote. 'That sounds good; everybody laughs.'

Told To Go Abroad

From the other side of life *Robert constantly advised her to, "Go to France."* Night after night when seated at the *ouija board* with *Mrs. B.* these words were so forcibly repeated that *Mrs. Wilcox* could no longer disregard them. On February 17th, 1918 she sailed for France.

That year Europe was *aflame* with the First World War. In the Atlantic enemy submarines were *lurking* everywhere. As the *S. S. Espagne* was sailing out of New York harbor a message from *Beyond* told her that she would return. Comforting as it was *Mrs. Wilcox* sensed behind this

(Cont. Page 12, Col. 1)

SPIRITUALISM IN INDIA

(Cont. from Page 10, Col 3)

father said, *"My son, you must give up the habit of drinking. You have a glorious future before you. I can help you a good lot if only you would promise not to drink."*

The son replied *"Father, I find it very hard to give it up. The moment I give it up, I get some sort of ill health and the craving for it is also great."*

The answer came *"I shall help you to get rid of the habit. Do not worry."*

From that day the gentleman has not touched a drop and never felt the craving. Could there be anything more wonderful? The gentleman is living hale and healthy and is now a staunch Spiritualist.

The *Spiritual Healing Centre,* Coimbatore, has awakened the public to form an idea of the cardinal truths of Spiritualism and its close relation to religious doctrines. But the response to the teachings from the public is slow.

An Appeal From India

Spiritualism contains nothing of dogmatism and the Hindu system is permeated with this idea. If only we understood that Spiritualism acknowledges the fundamental truths of the different systems of religion and that it makes it possible for men to know their destinies after death. It investigates into the metaphysical truths of human life and solves them satisfactorily. What will become of a man after his death? — is the primary question which vexes the human mind.

I appeal to all to take and look into the science of Spiritualism which answers every aspect of life after death, for it deals with the state of human beings in after life, their mode of living, and characters of their existence, of their possibility of reunion with their dear ones.

Instead of believing theories, here is first hand knowledge given by the actual denizens there and it is safer to rely on their words than what is given to us in books written hundreds of years ago.

Lastly, *Spiritualism* bows down to the teachings of the *Great Messiahs, Avatars,* when they preach to mankind to solve the mysteries of life and the enigmas of after life. These have been, till now, unanswered and a study of the truths, pure and experimented has come to us. *Let all those who are thirsty drink the nectar of Spiritualism and be benefitted.*

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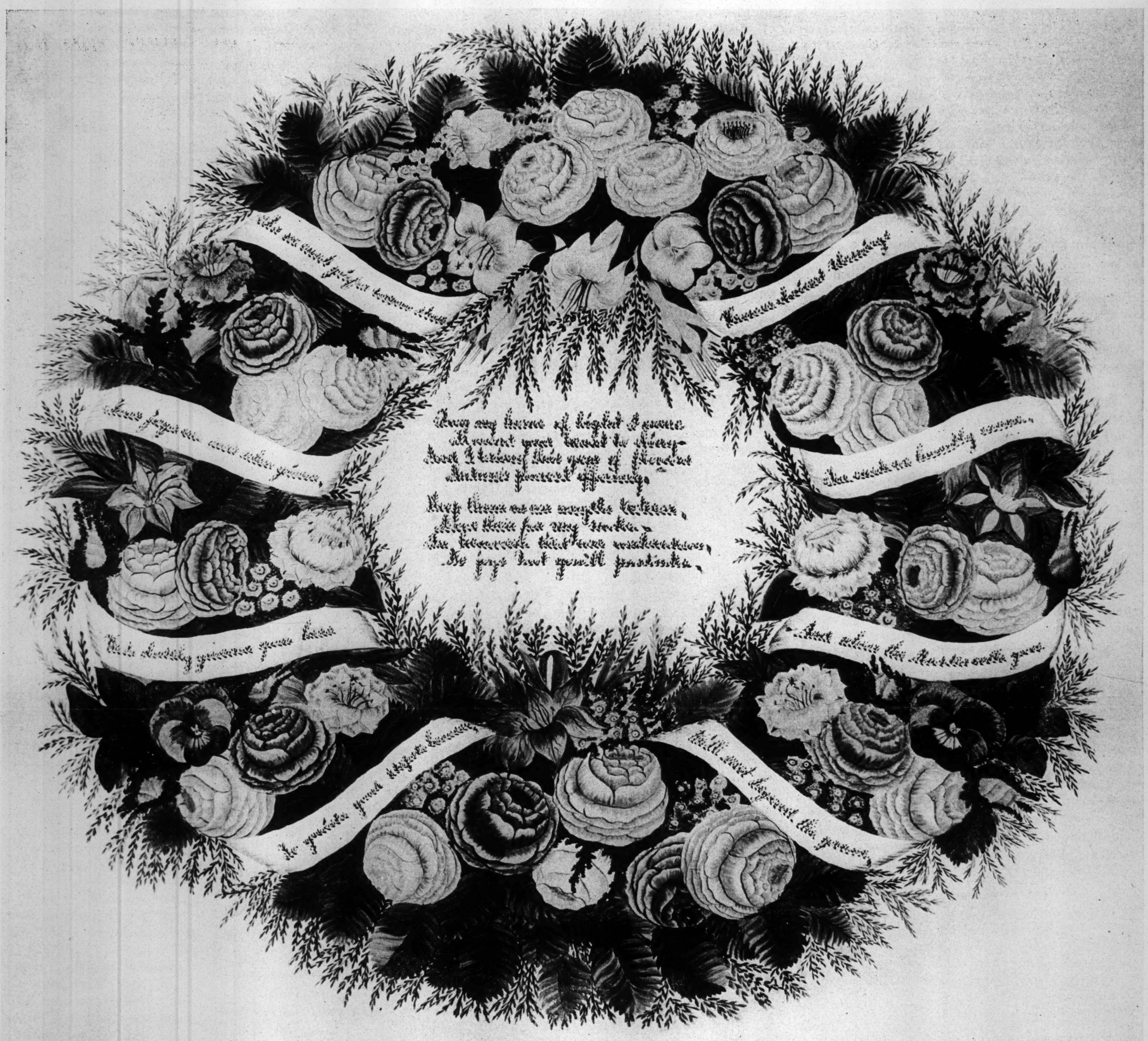
This Rare Spirit Painting Exquisitely Done In Color

Was Displayed by E. P. Bach at Rochester, N. Y. During the

50th Anniversary of Modern Spiritualism



The picture above is a reproduction of one of the rarest psychic pictures on record. The original, presented to the editors of this journal by *Evielena P. Bach*, is in the offices of *Psychic Observer* and may be seen at Lily Dale, N. Y. during July and August, 1947. The records show that this picture, displayed in Rochester at the 50th anniversary of Modern Spiritualism, was completed in eight minutes by a medium who was totally blind.

E. P. Bach, editor of the "*Sunflower*," was present at the seance when this demonstration of psychic intelligence took place. He classified the mediumship as "*automatic painting.*"

All officers and directors of forthcoming celebrations, commemorating the 100th anniversary of Modern Spiritualism, should stress the importance of planning a similar display of interesting phenomena.

Owing to the detail and technique of the flowered script, it is difficult—even from the original, to discipher the wording (i.e.) reading counter-clockwise: "*For we even grief or sorrow share*"; "*Your joys are ours when given*"; "*We've closely guarded you here*"; "*To guide your steps to heaven*"; *We'll meet beyond the grave*"; "*And when the master calls you*"; "*For each we humbly crave*"; "*Heaven's choicest blessings.*"

—oo—

Poem, in center, Reads:

From my Home of Light I come.
Round Your Heart to cling.
And I bring this gem of flowers
Nature's purest offering.

Keep them as an Angel's token
Love then for my sake
In Heaven ties are unbroken
No joys but you'll partake.

ELLA WHEELER WILCOX

(Cont. from Page 11, Col. 4)

message a *mystic warning* of something she could not explain.

Once in France she threw herself wholeheartedly into war work. At the same time she continued her sittings with the *ouija board*. Daily messages of instruction on her book and encouragement for herself continued to arrive from *Robert* on the other side of life.

With the war at its height those were hectic days in France. Even with her abundant energy *Mrs. Wilcox* could not stand the strain. Forced at last to take a rest in London she fell desperately ill. Doctors brought her back to America on a stretcher.

The Angels Were Calling

At home once more her strength returned for a few weeks. But *Ella Wheeler Wilcox* was destined to live only a few months more. Despite their most valiant efforts close friends knew that the pen which had once stirred the hearts of millions would soon be still.

From Summerland the angels were calling. On the morning of October 30th, 1919 *Mrs. Wilcox* heard the last call. Thus ended one of the most *outstanding* cases of *psychic communication* known to modern *Spiritualism*.

Today at Short Beach, Connecticut, two silver urns are sealed forever into the rocks high above the beautiful waters of Granite Bay. In these are the ashes of *Robert* and *Ella Wheeler Wilcox*.

Warren Chandler

The Understanding Friend

There IS Someone Who Understands

Modern medical science does wonders for us when we are ill in body. But the greatest suffering is not always physical. Often the greatest suffering is in our hearts. Deep in our hearts we have our hardest struggles. Hidden there are our highest hopes.

Few things cheer us more than the joy of knowing that someone understands our needs and prays for us. Like the inspiring strains of beautiful music it soothes and softens even the deepest wounds of life.

When the road of life is very lonely and one kind word would mean so much, when the burdens of living are many and your heart grows weary of the struggle, write to me. I will understand. Let your worries become my worries. Let your troubles become my troubles. Let me be your friend.

Our work together will not be a series of lessons or a course of training. It will be practical spiritual help carried on by confidential correspondence. Whoever you are, wherever you are, this help is yours on a Love Offering basis.

WARREN CHANDLER

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"More Things Are Wrought By Prayer Than This World Dreams Of"—*Tennyson*